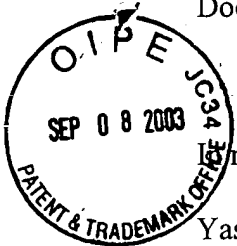


3653

Docket No.: 62807-026

PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Is/re Application of

: Customer Number: 20277

Yasutomo KOSUGI

: Confirmation Number: 2519

Serial No.: 10/022,336

: Group Art Unit: 3653

Filed: December 20, 2001

: Examiner: D. K. Schlak

For: BILL HANDLING MACHINE

#6
1.1.1111
6/12/03

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Restriction
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED
SEP 09 2003
GROUP 3600

Sir:

Noting the Office Action of August 15, 2003 wherein restriction has been required, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Group I (claims 1-13) for prosecution in the above-identified application.

REMARKS

The restriction requirement is improper, particularly with regard to Groups I and II. As between these two groups, the requirement is based on a mischaracterization of the inventions of the two groups of claims as subcombinations that are usable together in a single combination. To the contrary, all of the claims relate to bill handling machines, albeit with different claimed features.

To the extent necessary, if any, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,